AIDS TO VICTORY
HOME NEWS

VOL. 1—NO. 1 WILMINGTON, MASS. FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1943

TO OUR BOYS & GIRLS

To the gallant men and women of the town of Wilmington serving in the armed forces all over the world for this great Country of ours "America."

The ladies of the Aids to Victory have worked very hard to bring to each and every one of you the feeling that we are back foy you here at home one hundred per cent and want to help you as you are training and fighting to preserve the peace and happiness for the homes you have left just for awhile. I can't say enough in praise of the wonderful enthusiasm of all the women of the town and deeply grateful for their help, yes and some out of town that have heard about doing for you folks.

We number about one hundred now and we like to think that we just have adopted you fellows and girls for the duration. I believe there are over four hundred of you so you see what a lovely family these one hundred mothers have. I am pround to mention one of these ladies alone has knitted thirty six of the sweaters that have been sent. Perhaps some of you know her, Mrs. Garrow, and some of you are wearing those very sweaters. Yes I could go on and on with ladies names that have knitted and put in many hours in other ways for our Aids to Victory work. Each one has made it possible to continue and bring to you thoughts from back home. I guess we are selfish too for we are paid back many many times with satisfaction. Which makes me think of a verse that I like very much that I heard on the radio—"there is a destiny that makes us brothers. None goes his way alone—All that we send into the lives of others, Comes back into our own."

The many letters from you have been so interesting to hear and the expressions of appreciation is all we need to keep us going. We are continually searching for new ideas to make your hours away just a little bit happier and that while you are away you may know that our thoughts are with you.

There are many of you that do not need anything but a word from home, which means so much and there are some in the army out of the country that we can't send packages to as we use to and even you folks that do want knitted articles there is nothing better than a letter from home. So now we are going to try to bring to each and everyone of you just that something from home you've been wishing for.

Through the kindness of Mr. Kelley - Editor and Publisher of the Wilmington Mirror who has most generously offered to help the Aids to Victory ladies by printing this Newsletter. We are going to try to bring him enough news and things of interest to print a sheet to be sent to you the first week in each month. Perhaps some of you would like to suggest things to put in the letters. If any of you would like to send messages to your pals in the paper send them in and help to make the Newsletter each month more interesting. Without news our ideas for you could not continue.

I think you folks will feel as grateful as I do to our much needed and adopted publisher. Through his kindness he has made so many people happier and one more dream realized for the Aids to Victory ladies.

It is my sincere hope that from time to time the Newsletter may bring you hope and courage to continue on and help you to face each day as it comes no matter how gloomy the day or how dark the clouds are there is always a tomorrow. Nothing eer stays the same and the sunshine will surely shine again.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mary Currier Hadley
President of Aids to Victory.

Mrs. Florence J. Williams of Shawsheen Avenue states in a letter that she received from her son William that he has been made a private first class and expects his next commission the first of May when he will come east to attend school. He has also been made an instructor.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Read of Central street will leave on Friday April 9 to visit their son, Kenneth who is in Philadelphia.

Robert Amero of the R. A. F. friend of Kenneth Read visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Read recently.

We are sorry to learn that Alfred Lynch of Woburn street who came home from Ft. Benning, Ga., for a 10 day furlough is ill with bronichal pneumonia.

Anton Theil Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Anton Theil of Beacon St., has been promoted to the rank of Corporal and is stationed at San Deigo, Cal., in the Air Corps.

Joseph McMahon received a card Wednesday from George Newcomb of Chestnut St. George is in Africa.

A Message From The Clergymen

Greetings to the members of the armed forces from St Thomas' Parish, Wilmington. You may be interested to know that I am unveiling a roll of honor at St. Thomas' Church with about 140 names on it. I am also fixing up a shrine where you will be especially remembered both by the parishioners and myself. The good people of the parish tendered me a reception on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood and I hope that next year the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the parish, we will have you in our midst not only in spirit but in reality.

Meantime we on the Home Front are trying to keep intact the ideals for which you are fighting. We want you to know that we are grateful to you for your sacrifice and will gladly do what we are asked to do to bring about an early victory and a lasting peace.

Sincerely your Pastor,
REV. JAMES M. DALEY

To all our men and women in the armed forces:

Best wishes from the Congregational Church back in Wilmington. We just want to let you know that we are thinking of you and are continually praying for your safety.

The complexion of our congregation has changed a lot since you went away as sixty-seven of our young people have entered the service. So you can see that we certainly miss you all.

The old Town is just as you left it but the people have changed a good deal. We are learning to do without a lot of things but we don't mind it in the least. We too are glad to serve in any small way that is possible and to do anything that will shorten the time that it is going to take until you are back home again. All of us have buckled down to business and we've got the home front covered to a "T".

All of the Churches of your Town write in wishing you the best of health and earnestly petition God for your safe return. Remember that God hears your prayers so make good use of this the greatest power on earth. "The Heavenly Father knoweth." May God bless you and keep you in the days to come.

Sincerely yours,
REV. CLYDE M. MARTIN

Two weeks ago my second brother left his school work for the United States Army. One of his wishes was that things back home would be worth coming back to when the war is over. We who are in Wilmington are doing our best to keep our lines straight. As a minister, I take pleasure in stating that your brothers and sisters in the Church School are receiving fine training. In spite of the problems of the current conflict, we are carrying on the work of the Church, for we realize that the war can be won abroad

Aids to Victory Edit Home News for Men

This is the first issue of "Home News" sponsored by the Aids to Victory of Wilmington. "Home News" is designed to be mailed in envelopes to each and every Wilmington boy and girl serving their country.

An editorial staff with Mrs. David Martin and Mrs. James Castine assisted by a group of correspondents throughout the town will prepare the news for publication in the Mirror on the First Friday of each month.

Following the printing in the paper the Mirror is furnishing the Aids to Victory 450 copies on white stock to be mailed.

Complete newspapers can be mailed to boys in the service by subscription only, however this sheet can be mailed first class and the idea was conceived by the women of the Aids to Victory. The publisher of the Mirror offered his facilities free of charge to help bring "Home" to those away from home.

Every resident in town is asked to contact any of the correspondents regarding news items that will be of interest to the boys. Please do your share by helping the editors with news.

Boys in Service are also asked to write to the Aids to Victory regarding their promotions and any news about themselves or other Wilmington boys, which will be used on this page each month.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED SO DO YOUR SHARE.

AROUND THE TOWN
By JIMMIE CASTINE

While standing at the corner [illegible] one wonders drug store evenings one wonders when the old gang will return to take up the discussions, that have been left off for the duration, of town politics and other news of interest. Town politics are running true to form but it took the boys on the corner to hash them over and still know nothing about the outcome. Your Selectman, Frank W. Dayton, Charles D. Black and John Cooke are still grinding out the town government whether we like it or not. The old town hall is getting an ever hauling inside in the line of paint and various alterations to accommodate the many offices that help to make up this town of ours.

I would like to see the old gang in the lunch cart ordering the good old hamburgers with a cup of java with Harry Huntley, Walter Bishne and Harry Proton slinging them out. George Spanos is still delivering the Chocolate Sundays and Frappes to those of us who are left behind. He receives many letters and cards from the boys and appreciates them very much.

On Tuesday nights some of the gang are still tossing them down the alleys and knocking them over with Carl Connor still hitting them. Four teams are now in the league which will end this week. Chief Harry Ainsworth of the police department is still watching over us all and keeping us on the line. He is assisted by an auxiliary force that are of a great help to the department.

Bill Cavanaugh is still carrying them around in a taxi and is awaiting the return of the gang to the square. Doc Fagan has been a great help in going to all fires giving first aid also Hot Coffee to [illegible] a cold night at a fire.

The night clubs are hard hit due to the gas rationing but when the boys need a little amusement they travel by bus to the Narrow or up to Townsbury. Many other forms of entertainment are [illegible] quite a little but when you boys return every thing will be on the [illegible] again.

The local post of the American Legion is planning on your return to join with them and help to make this world a good place to live in again. An honor roll is in the making by the post and will contain all the names of the boys and girls in the service from this town. All the churches also have Honor Rolls placed in a good spot where all members of the church may read.

Mr. Hood at the high school is kept pretty busy these days keeping up with all the government requests for boys to enter the forces. Classes have been changed and physical education is tops on the list of musts in the school. Many of the boys have entered the service on the day they reached their seventeenth birthday and will be given their diplomas at the end of the school term if they were up in their studies. Many will also leave school on May 1 to enter employment where they are most needed in the War effort.

I will try to round up more news of the town for the next issue and I hope it will be of interest to all of you men and women of this town who are so gallantly carrying on for those of us who are at home.

JIMMIE (Scoop) CASTINE.

Thomas Farrell is in the observation end of the Air corps and expects a promotion to sergeant soon.

Edward Farrell is stationed in Colorado attending school and will finish in May and expects to obtain a furlough for a few days to visit his parents.

29th Meeting Report

The twenty-ninth meeting of the Aids to Victory was held at Masonic Hall on Monday, March 29, 1943. A dessert luncheon was served prior to the meeting by Mrs. Mary C Hadley and her committee. Mrs. Hadley opened the meeting with all pledging allegiance to the flag; singing American and a prayer by the acting chaplain, Mrs. Walter Currier. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. Many communications and requests were read from the boys. A bill for $1.63 was submitted by Mrs. Hadley for twenty-five pounds of sugar to be used in making cookies for those in the service. A motion was made and seconded to pay this bill and it was so voted. The penny collection was taken and it netted $1.53. Two drawings were held on the Legion Blanket Club and Mrs. Fred King was the 20th winner and Mrs. Gardner Ritchie the 21st. The luncheon chairman turned in $6.95 Mrs. Ruth Bond, candy chairman gave a full report on the sale of candy and turned in $15.00. She also displayed a box of ice-box cookies that could be purchased for 27c a box if bought in lots of twelve. A motion was made and seconded to purchase twelve boxes and send them to those in service and it was so voted. A box of cookies was put up on chances and it netted $2.45 and Mrs. Matthew Casey was the winner. Mrs Doris Cady showed the ladies a very pretty chair set made by Mrs. Jennie Gomes and Mrs. Cady said she would have books made up and it would be put on chances later. The question came up about the handkerchiefs sent with the birthday cards whether it would be better to continue having handkerchief showers and to buy them in large quantities. A motion was made and seconded to buy the handkerchiefs in large quantities and it was so voted. Mrs. Hadley reported that she had twenty-five pounds of sugar from the Rationing Board to be used for cookies for those in the service. She said Mrs. Charles Matthews and Mrs. Rose Ritchie would have charge of sending the cookies. She suggested having cooky parties to help the ladies. It was suggested that we have a home paper of news and send it to all those in the service. This paper to be mimeographed and sent first class once a month. Mrs. Castine and Mrs. Martin to be co-editors and the following ladies would be section reporters: Mrs. Ward, Silver Lake; Mrs. Harriet Buck, North Wilmington; Miss Henrietta Swain, East; Mrs. Ruth Bond, Shawsheen Avenue; Mrs. Helen Noonan, West. It was decided to call it the Aids to Victory Home News. There being no further business the meeting closed by all singing the Victory Song.

Respectfully submitted,
MURIEL I. MARTIN, Sec'y.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Co-editors:
Mrs. Theresa Castine
Mrs. Muriel Martin

Section Reporters:
Mrs. Mabel McDonough,
Mrs. Katherine Joyce, Silver Lake
Mrs. Edith Nitchie, South
Mrs. Mabel Read, Centre
Mrs. Helen Noonan, West
Mrs. Ruth Bond, Shawsheen Ave
Miss Henrietta Swain, West
Mrs. Harriet Buck, North
Mrs. Hilda Buck, North

Stanley Witham has returned to Ft. Benning, Ga., after enjoying a 10 day furlough.

Life with the Marines seems to agree with Calvin Drew and Edward Burns as they have put on weight. They are stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina and both have won medals for sharpshooting.

—George L. Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Young of Middlesex avenue is now stationed at Groce City College. Pa., following his basic training at New River North Carolina. He is studying radio and communications.

SERVICEMEN

The WILMINGTON MIRROR Seeks Data On Wilmington Men In The Army, Navy, Air Corps or Marines.

The WILMINGTON MIRROR seeks to list, as far as possible, all Wilmington residents who have entered any branch of the United States armed forces.

Parents or relatives of men in the service are requested to forward the following information to the MIRROR office as soon as possible. Box 506

Full Name .....
Age, Birthplace .....
Home Address .....
.....
Wife's Maiden Name, If Married .....
.....
Parents' Name, Address .....
.....
Occupation Before Entering Service .....
Date Of Entering Service .....
Rank, Branch of Service .....
.....
...sent Whereabouts .....
...ols Attended .....
..., Church Affiliation .....
.....
...This Blank .....

A Message By Mr. J. T. Hood

To the Wilmington boys in the service:

The Aids to Victory have given me this opportunity to greet you in their first News Letter. I am glad to avail myself of the privilege.

Since I know many of you personally I am deeply interested in your welfare and hope to greet you soon on the streets of Wilmington. I hear from a number of you and have been most careful to answer all letters and cards with a letter of my own. I shall appreciate hearing from you and I promise to answer every one.

We at the high school are doing everything we can to prepare the boys for induction into the Armed Service. Mr. Driscoll gives the senior boys two periods each day of marching and conditioning exercises and the junior boys have one period of exercises each day. They get a real work out. Mr. Kambour is teaching trigonometry to the seniors and I teach classes in pre-flight aeronautics and a class in radio code. We want to do all we can to make it easier for the boys when they enter the service. If you have any suggestions send them to me and I can assure you that they will be adopted if they prove to be practicable.

May I wish each one of you a full measure of good luck and a speedy return to your homes.

Sincerely
J. Turner Hood, Jr.

The following boys reported for active service this week:

Navy:
Albert Overton Ballarvale St.
Rupert Deming, Federal St.

Army:
Herbert C. Barrows, Woburn St.
Wallace E. Barrows, formerly Salem St. now of Melrose
Ernest C. Burns, Marion St.
Norman W. Miron, Salem St.
Freeman E. Bishop, Marion St.
Jerome Rooney, Chestnut St.
Richard Daley, Chestnut St.
Raymond V. Goss, Eames St.
Louis Lamoureux, Clark St.

To the Wilmington Boys in Service:

A group of ladies, Aids to Victory, have organized a personal service bureau for you. They are working on the following articles and if you have need for any of them, check and return this blank to us.

Sweater (sleeves or sleeveless)
Socks
Scarf Helmet
Trigger gloves
Mittens Dress gloves

Please state size and color needed.

If you have a buddy and he has some need and no means of getting it, let us know and we will help him if it is possible.

Yours sincerely,
MRS. MURIEL I. MARTIN, Sec'y
44 Boutwell Street

David Barnes of Burlington Avenue came home on a furlough the 17th of March for four days. During his trip from January 12th to this date he visited Casablanca and witnessed many thrilling experiences. He was able to take pictures of the places the President visited. One of the sites he saw on his trip was a ship blown up and sunk and the rescuing of the survivors. He left again April 6 for parts unknown.

Parents are asked to send any change of address of the ones in the service to the secretary of the ... Aids to Victory ... street ...

Mildred Buck Writes on Trip

A letter to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buck, Woburn St., North Wilmington, from their daughter, Mildred.

Dearest Mom and Dad:

At last a few minutes to write you a letter! It's past "lights out" and right now I am in the daylight room with about 15 other girls—and it's only a tiny room.

Well, I suppose you want to know all about it. Where to begin is the question! !

We left New York at 9 a. m., last Thursday—and took a nice long trip and so into Chatanooga. We came first class, too hon—no mere pullman for us—we had compartments. I was in a room with two other girls and we had loads of fun. And swell meals! When we arrived in Chatanooga we went a little further on the train and then were met by Army trucks. Boy, that's a job! Climbing in and out of those things! Then we arrived at the post—in the pouring rain. Well, darling from then on it was rush—rush—thru the rain and in and out getting supplies, listed etc. We finally ate and then went to our temporary barracks. We had three sets of tests and then had our permanent Army records made out. Sunday at noon we left for our permanent home—much nicer than the others. We sleep in double deckers and I am on top! You should see me try to make my bed in the A. M.

Monday was first day of classes—but six other girls and myself did K. P. all day. No it's not a punishment—we all get it but being a B, I was near the top of the list. Ordinarily we get up at 6 a. m.,—but when you do K. P. you get up at 5 a. m.—and we worked until after 8 p. m. That really is a day's work—scrubbing pans as large as yourself, doing dishes, carrying coal, keeping fires, waiting on tables, sweeping floors and mopping floors. What fun! Needless to say no one had to rock me to sleep last night!

Today we had classes and they really are interesting.

First you get up at 6—at 6:30 you have to report for reville. I am one of the squad leaders and have to be responsible for my squad of 14 girls. Then we come back and about seven go to breakfast. Then we come back and have to finish up everything—You know everything has to be in place, beds made, floors swept, etc. Then out we go again to start a day that goes from 8 to 1:30 with a variety of classes, drill, exercises, etc. We march to everything, of course!

We were fitted for uniforms—but few of us have much. So far I only have shirts, two summer shirts, hose, socks, pajamas, pantees, tie, hankies and I guess that's all. It rained so much when we first arrived that they issued us men's raincoats. You should see us in 'em—about 6 times too big.

The weather down here is grand—when it doesn't rain! Several of the girls have sun burns but I haven't yet!

It really is funny watching some of the girls trying to adapt themselves. Especially the ones ... be fussy eating. Now ... at they get and are thankful! We really get grand food tho'—and really eat.

Well, I'll close now. Write as soon as you have time—and I'll try to answer right away. It's been hard to find time so far but as time goes on I imagine I can budget my time better.

Saturday, we have barrack inspection—I mean we have it daily—but on Saturday by the big shots. Saturday we also have exams. We have Thursday afternoon off—but will have to start taking our shots! What fun!

If you have any spare stamps when you write, enclose one and you'll get a quicker reply because I don't always have time to get one.

Bye now,
Mildred

Address me as
Aux. Mildred Buck
Company 20-21st Regiment
3rd WAAC Training Center
Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Louis Kleymen for some time was stationed in Los Angeles, Cal. and had quite a time there meeting all the celebrities and seeing pictures in the making. His album is overflowing with autographs and snapshots of the stars. He is now stationed at Nashville, Tenn., and is now on maneuvers. Last Tuesday he surprised his family with a telephone call to his home.

Freddie is arriving home on an unexpected 15 day furlough from Mississippi and will be a guest of honor on Monday at the Aids to Victory meeting.

Private Francis A. Crispo, U. S. Army returned to Camp Pickett, Virginia, after spending a furlough at his home on Shawsheen Ave. Pvt. First Class Leo H. Crispo is also at Camp Pickett, and both boys report they like their duties very much.

Charles V. Crispo reported recently for duty in the U. S. Navy and is stationed at Camp Perry, Williamsburg, Va., as a carpenter's mate first class.

from first lieutenant to the rank of captain. Dr. Boynton entered the air service to train for a flight surgeon.

—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Read of Central street will spend the weekend with their son Kenneth at Philadelphia. Kenneth expects to leave on a trip soon.

—Paul H. Hanson of Lowell St. has been promoted to private first class. Paul is now stationed at Chanute Field, Ill.

—Dr. George H. Boynton has completed his course at Randolph Field, Texas and has been promoted

—Robert H. Watters of Federal street is now a lieutenant. He is stationed at Marianna, Fla.

—John and Joseph Cochrane, brothers who were stationed at Fort Scofield, Hawaii, but John left to become a navigator in the air corps. Both boys have been in Hawaii for three years. Joseph has been sent to California, Camp Beal. While home on leave, Joseph was a guest of honor at the Aids to Victory meeting. He spoke to the ladies telling them how much he and all the other local boys appreciate the splendid work the women are doing in their behalf.

—William Waterhouse is now ... tioned in Kentucky. He is a ... ther-in-law of the Cochrane ... thers.